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Sgt. Hurst honored for 25 years with LPD

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Lowell city council had their latest regular meeting at city hall on Monday, Oct. 7. The meeting lasted one hour and 25 minutes and was attended by 19 local residents.

First, Lowell police sergeant Christopher Hurst was honored for a quarter century of service with the department. He was originally hired on Oct. 10, 1994.

“We would like to thank you for 25 years of outstanding service to the city of Lowell and the Lowell police department,” said Lowell police chief Steve Bukala.

“This has been a great place to work,” Hurst said. “I want to put at least in 30 years here, so I’ve got five more to go.”

After absorbing input from the public at recent informational meetings, the council made a voter-friendly change to the potential income tax ordinance.

“It was the city council’s intent to utilize funds generated from the city income tax to be used for street improvements after offsetting the equivalent



LPD Sgt. Christopher Hurst (left) got a standing ovation for reaching the milestone of 25 years as a Lowell police officer. On the right is LPD chief Steve Bukala.

of the five mills of revenue that was reduced and for the costs of administering the income tax,” said Lowell city manager Michael Burns. “We shared this information

with residents who attended the Sept. 18 income tax informational meeting. There was concern from those residents that this language may give the council the

chance not to use the funds for street improvements. It was suggested that the resolution be modified to state that the income tax revenue ‘shall’ be used for

street improvements after offsetting the expenditures effected by the five mill

Council, continued, page 7

Lowell Light & Power celebrating annual Public Power Week Oct. 6-12

Lowell Light & Power is celebrating Public Power Week Oct. 6-12, along with more than 2,000 other

puts the people of Lowell first, and Public Power Week gives us the chance to emphasize the advantages of

much quicker than those impacted in surrounding communities and other areas in the State.”

“Our service is reliable and safe and we take pride in serving our friends and neighbors,” said Distribution Manager Ryan Teachworth. “Lowell Light and Power is proud to have served Lowell for 123 years.”

Lowell Light & Power invites its customers to participate in a variety of Public Power Week Events. Activities include:

- LED Nightlight Giveaway
- Free popcorn, donuts, cider, and balloons in the office throughout the week
- Trivia contest on LL&P’s Facebook page
- Receive a free gift when you round up your monthly bill or when you donate \$5 towards the A PLUS fund
- The Annual Harvest Fest Celebration at the

conclusion of Public Power Week on October 12th from 11am – 2pm at the Fairgrounds. Stop by for pumpkin painting, a game of cornhole/bags, and free giveaways. Our lineman will be demonstrating some of their skills by climbing a utility pole approximately every half hour. And that’s not all! Kids will be able to climb a smaller pole and snap a selfie with a lineman. You won’t want to miss it!

Today Lowell Light & Power has 17 employees and two primary facilities; an office building at 127 N. Broadway and an Energy Center at 625 Chatham. The Energy Center houses the distribution and generation departments and is also the location of LL&P’s two natural gas fired combustion turbines. LL&P serves approximately 2,500 residential customers and 420 commercial and industrial customers.

Public Power Week is an annual national event coordinated by the American Public Power Association in Washington, D.C. The American Public Power Association is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. The Association represents public power before the federal government to protect the interests of the more than 49 million people that public power utilities serve, and the 93,000 people they employ. It advocates and advises on electricity policy, technology, trends, training, and operations. Its members strengthen their communities by providing superior service, engaging citizens, and instilling pride in community-owned power. More information can be found at www.PublicPower.org.

community-owned, not-for-profit electric utilities that collectively provide electricity to 49 million Americans.

“We are proud to be community powered,” said Lowell Light & Power General Manager Steven Donkersloot. “Public power

locally grown, locally owned power to our citizens. This was especially evident over the course of the past year when severe storms and strong winds swept through Lowell on three separate occasions. The majority of our customers never lost power, and for those who did, power was restored

Today: October 9, 2019

October 9 is the 282nd day of the year and the 17th day of autumn.

83 days remain in 2019.

Historic Events

768: Carloman I and Charlemagne are crowned kings of the Franks.

1410: The first known mention of the Prague astronomical clock.

1446: The hangul alphabet is published in Korea.

1604: Supernova 1604 is sighted, the most recent supernova to be observed within the Milky Way.

1635: Roger Williams is banished from the Massachusetts Bay Colony after religious and policy disagreements.

1701: Yale University (then named "the Collegiate School of Connecticut") is chartered in Old Saybrook, CT.

1708: Peter the Great defeats the Swedes at the Battle of Lesnaya.

1740: Dutch colonists and Javanese natives begin to massacre the ethnic Chinese population in Batavia, eventually killing 10,000.

1790: A severe earthquake in northern Algeria causes severe damage and a tsunami in the Mediterranean Sea and kills 3,000.

1799: HMS Lutine sinks with the loss of 240 men and a cargo worth £1,200,000.

1804: Hobart, capital of Tasmania, is founded.

1812: War of 1812: US forces capture two British ships on Lake Erie: the HMS Detroit and HMS Caledonia.

1824: Slavery is abolished in Costa Rica.

1831: Assassination of Ioannis Kapodistrias, the first head of state of independent Greece.

1834: Opening of the Dublin and Kingstown Railway, Ireland's first public railway.

1847: Slavery is abolished in Saint Barthélemy.

1861: Union troops repel a Confederate attempt to capture Fort Pickens, near Pensacola, FL.

1864: Union cavalry defeats Confederate forces at Toms Brook, VA.

1873: Establishment of the US Naval Institute in Annapolis, MD.

1907: Las Cruces, NM is incorporated.

1914: End of the Siege of Antwerp in World War I.

1934: Assassination in Marseille of King Alexander I of Yugoslavia and Louis Barthou, Foreign Minister of France.

1936: Boulder Dam (later renamed Hoover Dam) begins to generate electricity and transmit it to Los Angeles.

1941: A coup in Panama declares Ricardo Adolfo de la Guardia Arango the new president.

1962: Uganda becomes an independent commonwealth.

1963: A huge landslide causes a giant wave to over-top the Vajont Dam in Italy, killing more than 2,000 people.

1967: A day after his capture in Bolivia, Ernesto "Che" Guevara is executed for attempting to incite a revolution.

1969: The National Guard is called in to handle demonstrations during the trial of the "Chicago Eight" - Abbie Hoffman, Jerry Rubin, David Dellinger, Tom Hayden, Rennie Davis, John Froines, Lee Weiner and Bobby Seale - who were charged by the federal government with conspiracy, inciting to riot and other charges related to anti-Vietnam War protests that took place during the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

1980: Pope John Paul II and the Dalai Lama meet privately in Vatican City.

1981: President François Mitterrand abolishes capital punishment in France.

1983: South Korean president Chun Doo-hwan



Cuban revolutionary Ernesto "Che" Guevara (right) upon his capture in Bolivia on Oct. 8, 1967. Guevara was in the country to overthrow the Bolivian government and create a socialist state in its place. He led a guerilla army called "Ejército de Liberación Nacional de Bolivia" and did battle with Bolivian troops. Guevara was executed by Bolivian soldiers on Oct. 9, 1967. His last words were reported to be, "I know you've come to kill me. Shoot, coward! You are only going to kill a man!"

Earnings record important for future

Social Security is an earned benefit. Your earnings history is a record of your progress toward your benefits. Social Security keeps track of your earnings so we can pay you the benefits you've earned over your lifetime. This is why reviewing your Social Security earnings record is so important.

If an employer didn't properly report just one year of your work earnings to us, your future benefit payments from Social Security could be less than they should be. Over the course of a lifetime, that could cost you tens of thousands of dollars in retirement or other benefits to which you are entitled. Sooner is definitely better when it comes to identifying and reporting problems with your earnings record. As time passes, you may no longer have easy access to past tax documents, and some employers may no longer exist or be able to provide past payroll information.

While it's the responsibility of your employers, both past and present, to provide accurate earnings information to Social Security so you get credit for the contributions you've made through payroll taxes, you should still inform us of any errors or omissions you find. You're the only

person who can look at your lifetime earnings record and verify that it's complete and correct.

The easiest and most efficient way to validate your earnings record is to visit www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount to set up or sign in to your own *my Social Security* account. You should carefully review each year of listed earnings and use your own records, such as W-2s and tax returns, to confirm them. Keep in mind that earnings from this year and last year may not be listed yet. Notify us right away if you spot errors by calling 1-800-772-1213.

You can find more detailed instructions on how to correct your Social Security earnings record at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10081.pdf.

Remember, you can access important information like this any time at www.socialsecurity.gov and do much of your business with us online.

Vonda VanTil is the Public Affairs Specialist for West Michigan. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 3045 Knapp NE, Grand Rapids MI 49525 or via email at vontil@ssa.gov.



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Today: October 9, 2019



John Lennon and his youngest son share a birthday. John was born Oct. 9, 1940 and Sean was born Oct. 9, 1975.

survives an assassination attempt in Rangoon, Burma (Yangon, Myanmar today). The blast kills 21 and injures 17.

2006: North Korea conducts its first nuclear test.

2012: Pakistani Taliban members attempt to assassinate outspoken schoolgirl Malala Yousafzai.

Birthdays

1201: Robert de Sorbon, theologian, founder of the Collège de Sorbonne

1586: Leopold V, former Archduke of Austria

1757: Charles X of France

1835: Camille Saint-Saëns, composer and conductor

1873: Charles Rudolph Walgreen, pharmacist, founder of Walgreens

1890: Aimee Semple McPherson, evangelist, radio personality

1900: Joseph Friedman, inventor of the bendy straw

1900: Alastair Sim,

actor 1907: Jacques Tati, actor, director, screenwriter

1911: Joe Rosenthal, photographer

1915: Belva Plain, author

1918: E. Howard Hunt, CIA officer, author

1920: Yusef Lateef, saxophonist, composer

1922: Philip "Fyvush" Finkel, actor

1935: Prince Edward, Duke of Kent

1936: Brian Blessed, actor

1939: O.V. Wright, singer/songwriter

1940: John Lennon, guitarist, singer/songwriter, activist, The Beatles

1940: Joe Pepitone, baseball player, coach

1941: Trent Lott, politician

1943: Mike Peters, cartoonist, "Mother Goose and Grimm"

1944: John Entwistle, singer/songwriter, bass player, The Who

1944: Nona Hendryx, singer/songwriter, Labelle

1947: France Gall, singer

1948: Jackson Browne, singer/songwriter

1952: Sharon Osbourne, television host, manager

1953: Tony Shalhoub, actor

1954: Scott Bakula, actor

1954: James Fearnley, accordion player, The Pogues

1954: John O'Hurley, actor, game show host

1955: Linwood Boomer, actor, producer, screenwriter

1957: Ini Kamoze, singer/songwriter

1958: Al Jourgensen, singer/songwriter, Ministry

1958: Mike Singletary, football player, coach

1961: Kurt Neumann, singer/songwriter, guitarist, the BoDeans

1964: Guillermo del Toro, director, producer, screenwriter

1966: David Cameron, former Prime Minister of the UK

1969: P.J. Harvey, singer/songwriter



The "Chicago Eight" were charged by the federal government with conspiracy, inciting to riot and other charges related to anti-Vietnam War protests that took place during the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

Top row: Jerry Rubin, Abbie Hoffman, Tom Hayden and Rennie Davis. Bottom row: Bobby Seale, Lee Weiner, John Froines and David Dellinger.

1969: Giles Martin, songwriter, producer

1969: Steve McQueen, director, producer, screenwriter

1975: Sean Lennon, singer/songwriter, guitarist

1976: Nick Swardson, actor, comedian

1978: Nicky Byrne, singer/songwriter, Westlife

1979: Alex Greenwald, singer/songwriter, Phantom Planet

1979: Chris O'Dowd, actor

1979: Brandon Routh, actor

1981: Zachery Ty Bryan, actor

1996: Bella Hadid, actor, model

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The Lowell Ledger

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Vertical Bridge Development, LLC would like to place on notice the proposed construction of an installation consisting of a 199 foot monopole tower known as Snow Avenue RL located at 42°54'22.71" north latitude and 85°25'34.14" west longitude at the approximate vicinity of at 3456 Snow Avenue Southeast Lowell, Kent County, Michigan 49331.

If you have any concerns regarding historic properties that may be affected by this proposed undertaking, please contact: DeAnna Anglin, The Lotis Engineering Group, PC, at Anglin@thelotisgroup.com or 6465 Transit Road - Suite 23, East Amherst, NY 14051-2232 or (716) 276-8707.

In your response, please include the proposed undertaking's location and a list of the historic resources that you believe to be affected along with their respective addresses or approximate locations.

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With Christopher C. Godbold

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How to become a long-term investor

It's a fairly predictable pattern: When the stock market rises, more people invest, but after a large-scale drop, many of these same people head for the exits. But by staying out of the financial markets, and only putting their money in "safe" vehicles that offer few or no growth prospects, are they really helping themselves? Here's the bottom line: If you're going to make progress toward your long-term goals, you have to become a long-term investor. But how?

To begin with, you need to understand that long-term investing involves accepting inevitable short-term price swings. You may not like seeing those sharp price drops, but it will help your outlook greatly if you can keep them in perspective. Studies have shown that the longer you hold your investments, the less impact market volatility can have on them.

So, to reach that point where the market's ups and downs have less of a cumulative impact on your holdings, consider the following actions:

- Only invest money you won't need for a long time. If you can tell yourself that the money

you are investing today is money you won't really need for 20 or 30 years, you'll be better prepared, psychologically, to get through the down periods of the financial markets. And as long as you aren't overextending yourself financially in other parts of your life, you really shouldn't need those investment dollars for a very long time. They should be earmarked for goals you hope to achieve far into the future, such as a comfortable retirement.

- *Keep your focus on what is most important to you.* If you can visualize your long-term goals, you'll find it easier to keep working toward them. For example, if you are hoping to travel extensively when you retire, keep thinking about what that might look like. You might even research the countries you plan to visit, even if these trips are far in the future. Ultimately, if you know where you're going and you're determined to get there, you'll get past the bumps in the road.

- *Don't spend excessive time reviewing your investment statements.* A bad month or two can cause some noticeably negative numbers on your

investment statements. But if you can discipline yourself to avoid spending too much time dwelling on these figures, you may feel less stress about investing – and you may even be less tempted to make short-term moves that could have unfortunate long-term results. However, if you do want to study your investment statements, don't just stop at the most recent results. Instead, look for trends that might tell a different story. Has the number of shares you own in various investments increased significantly over time? And over the past five or 10 years, has your portfolio's overall performance been positive? By digging a little deeper into your statements, you might gain more confidence in the course you're following.

Short-term price drops are not pleasant to experience. However, you can help yourself become a better long-term investor by following the above suggestions, so put them to work soon – and stick with them.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

NEWSPAPERS Outperform Magazines in Michigan

the lowell ledger

More adults in Michigan read a newspaper than local magazines.¹



Newspapers are the most trusted media source.²

Adults, across all generations, identify newspapers as their most trusted source of news and information – ahead of magazines.

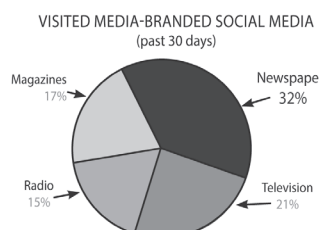
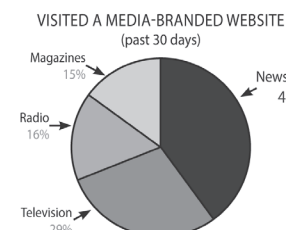
79% Eight in 10 newspaper readers took action as a result of reading a newspaper ad in the past 30 days³

Newspaper ads result in more purchases than magazine ads.

22%

of adults often purchase products and services as the result of a magazine ad.⁴

Digital media users rely on newspaper-branded websites and social media, over magazine-branded properties, for local market news.⁴



Sources: (1) Release 2 Nielsen Scarborough Report. Copyright 2018 Scarborough Research. All rights reserved. (2) Triad/Coda Ventures - The Newspaper Generation Study; (3) NAA; (4) AMG/Parade Local Knowledge Survey

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
JOSEPH GORDON SCHOLTEN TRUST
dated 2/12/2008, as amended on 4/28/2015

TO ALL CREDITORS:
The Settlor, Joseph Gordon Scholten, who lived at 1436 Johnston St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49507, died on 8/23/2019. There is no personal representative of the settlor's estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued. Creditors of the

decedent are notified that all claims against the Joseph Gordon Scholten trust uad 2/12/08, as amended on 4/28/15, will be forever barred unless presented to successor trustee, Jeanne Marie VanKammen, of 5735 Timber Canyon NE, Belmont, MI 49306, or Craig A. Bruggink, attorney for successor trustee, 429 Turner Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504, within four months after the date of publication. Notice is further given

that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

Jeanne Marie VanKammen,
Successor Trustee
Joseph Gordon Scholten Trust
dated 2/12/08, as amended on 4/28/15

Craig A. Bruggink
(P29358)
Attorney for Successor Trustee
429 Turner NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
616-456-4038

viewpoint

to the editor

To The Editor

On the evening of Monday, Oct. 7, I was the victim of a conspiracy between my boss, my co-workers, and my family. I was given a moment in time to celebrate 25 years of service with the Lowell Police Department at our city council meeting. I knew something was up when Chief Bukala asked me to attend the meeting, to have a presence in case anyone got a little rowdy

when discussing some issues on the meeting agenda. After the pledge I was ambushed by my family and fellow officers, who appeared from the back room. I was presented with a few nice words from the chief and a very nice plaque for my time in service.

After the meeting I was given many "thanks," "congratulations," handshakes and hugs. I read many nice words of

congratulations on our Facebook page. Believe me, it means a lot. I'm not one who likes being in the spotlight and I had to give a speech during the meeting.

25 years ago I was working as a paramedic for Rockford Ambulance. At the same time I was a soldier in the National Guard and going to college full time at night. For two full years I worked, studied, slept, and ate, not having much free time, I went to school, to work, or to sleep. I completed my degree at GRCC and I was interviewed by the sheriff's department. After a three month process I was turned down because

of my military obligation. The sheriff department was encouraging me to resign from the military. I applied for and received the full time position with Lowell police department. Chief Valentine told me he would honor my obligation for military duty and allowed me to finish out 20 years in the Guard. Another reason I'm thankful to have landed here with this department.

During my time here, I've been a patrol officer, the DARE officer, the detective, the firearms/use of force instructor, the sergeant. I've been sent to hundreds of hours of training from firearms, investigations,

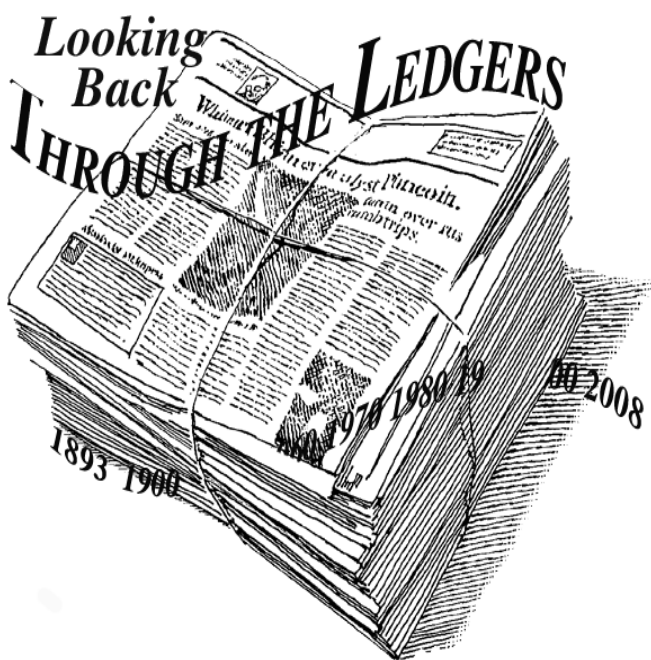
emergency driving, accident investigation, instructor schools and staff and command school. I've been allowed to attend training overseas with the military as part of my military enlistment. The Lowell police department has afforded me, as we do with all our officers, many training opportunities. These opportunities for training are not always afforded by other departments our size or larger. I'm often told how lucky we are here to be able to go to outside training.

During these 25 years, I've seen people die, seen people saved, had my share of pursuits, had a few fights, been injured, and even helped deliver a baby. I've seen people at their best and worst. I've written tickets, made arrests, and delivered bad news. I've been thanked for my service and been called everything in the book. I've made a few enemies and a whole lot of friends. I've been

bored, scared, exhausted and overwhelmed, sometimes all in one shift. I've had easy days and difficult ones. I found that it wasn't the work that kept me coming back, it was the people and this department. It's the teamwork, camaraderie and the training. I was very lucky to have found a home here with [the] Lowell police department and [a] city that supports its officers.

You have no idea how great it's been working for all of you. You've provided me so many opportunities and experiences that you can't find anywhere else. You don't owe me thanks or gratitude, it's the other way around. I serve at the pleasure of this community, not because I have to, but because I want to. Without the Lowell community, I wouldn't be here. Without your support, this department wouldn't exist.

Sgt. Christopher Hurst
Lowell police department



125 years ago Lowell Ledger October 13, 1894

The Lowell Fair opened Wednesday morning, under conditions that led people to term it Lowell's Midwinter fair. The winds blew, the snow nearly flew and Secretary Hooker didn't know what to do. The fakirs yelled in vain for suckers; the band boys blew their horns and fingers by turns and a hundred or so who braved the wintry blasts, shivered in the grand stand or stamped around the track fences. But the races went on just the same.

Clyde Watt, nineteen years old met with an accident yesterday while hunting with a party of Grand Rapids friends which resulted in the loss of his right arm. He was at Morison lake and while taking his gun from a boat it was accidentally discharged and the contents shattering his arm above the elbow rendering amputation necessary. He is a son of S. A. Watt, a prominent merchant of this place and well known in Grand Rapids.

The Scotch Medicine company, which has been entertaining our people with free and low price shows for the past four weeks, closes its engagement here this (Saturday) night, and on Monday will pull out for Saranac.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger October 9, 1919

John Borgerson has bought the Bergin block, known as the Ford Hardware building; and thereby hangs a tale. Beginning at the time John Kellogg bought the building occupied by Mr. Borgerson, interested parties have been in a state of uncertainty, which has now fallen upon the prosperous Ford Hardware company with a "dull sickening thud."

Wesley Blough and family met with what might have been a serious accident while on their way to church Sunday evening. As he was near the bridge at Zi Pardee's he went to turn out for a car and skidded off in the ditch upsetting the car and breaking the wind shield and braces, but fortunately nobody was hurt.

The people of Lowell were shocked and grieved Sunday evening when the news came that Dr. Charles H. Anderson, until recently a Lowell physician, had passed away, after a brief illness.

75 years The Lowell Ledger October 12, 1944

Sgt. Lloyd Frost of Lowell and four buddies of the 88th infantry unit recently stormed a house on the 5th army front in Italy and knocked out a German observation post holding up the advance of their rifle company.

Jimmie, six-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Kiesler of Lowell, was painfully bruised and injured about the head Monday afternoon when struck by a car driven by Douglas Squires, who was driving west past the Kiesler residence on his way home. Jimmie was playing along the roadside with a little friend and it is not definitely known just how the accident occurred.

Percy J. Read a lifelong and highly esteemed citizen of this community, died early Tuesday morning in Mercy hospital, Cadillac, from injuries suffered an hour and a half earlier when his car left the road north of Manton on US-131 and rolled over. Mr. Read was returning from a business trip when the accident occurred, and was alone in the car.

50 years The Lowell Ledger October 9, 1969

History was made last Saturday when the four-girl majorette team representing Lowell High School walked off with the first place trophy in the Great Lakes



We love to hear from you!

The Lowell Ledger welcomes letters to the editor from readers, but there are a few conditions that must be met before they will be published.

- The requirements are:
- All letters must be signed by the writer, with address and phone number provided for verification. All that will be printed is the writer's name and community of residence. We do not publish anonymous letters, and names will be withheld at the editor's discretion for compelling reasons only.
 - Letters that contain statements that are libelous or slanderous will not be published.
 - All letters are subject to editing for style, grammar and sense.
 - Letters that serve as testimonials for or criticisms of businesses will not be accepted.
 - Letters serving the function of "cards of thanks" will not be accepted unless there is a compelling public interest, which will be determined by the editor.
 - Letters that include attacks of a personal nature will not be published or will be edited heavily.
 - "Crossfire" letters between the same two people on one issue will be limited to one for each writer.
 - In an effort to keep opinions varied, there is a limit of one letter per person per month.
 - We prefer letters to be printed legibly or typed, double-spaced.

HEALTH

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At Your Local Library

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Looking Back, continued

Invitational Twirling Championship. The contest, sanctioned by the United States Twirling Association, was held at the Lowell Senior High School. Entries were received from Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio, as well as Michigan.

Lowell firemen were called out Sunday afternoon to hose down a blazing heap of corn husks near S. Monroe just off Kent St. A second alarm for this same fire was sounded a few hours later, but Fire Chief Frank Baker decided that the blaze was under control and that the fire trucks and volunteers were not needed.

25 years The Lowell Ledger October 12, 1994

Lowell Township's plans for a new park have hit a snag, but officials still hope to pursue the matter. Two years ago the township was given a grant of \$49,500 for the development of a township park. The 70 acres of land are on the south side of the Grand River.

Mike Solon, Lowell High School's certified athletic trainer, believes the true high school athletes want to be out on the playing field all the time. With a training room facility that has all the necessities and many of the extras, Solon hopes to assist today's high school athletes in staying on the field and off the trainer's table.

- gastroesophageal reflux disease

Heartburn, acid reflux, and acid indigestion are all terms used to describe a burning feeling in the chest or a backwash of stomach contents into the mouth or the esophagus. The most common symptoms of GERD are a burning feeling in the chest and regurgitating food or liquid into the throat. Other symptoms include dry cough, chronic cough, wheezing or asthma, sore throat or hoarseness, and tooth erosion.

The diagnosis of GERD can usually be made based on symptoms and whether your symptoms improve with medication. Other tests that are sometimes used for diagnosis of GERD are endoscopy, which uses a video camera to look down the esophagus, and manometry, which measures the muscle contractions of the esophagus.

There are a number of treatments for GERD. Sometimes people need to use one or more on an ongoing basis. Over-the-counter medications include antacids and two types

of medicines that reduce stomach acid: H2 receptor blockers (such as ranitidine) and proton pump inhibitors (such as omeprazole). Some people also find it helpful to avoid eating or drinking chocolate, coffee, peppermint, greasy or spicy foods, tomato products, and alcohol. Other treatments include quitting smoking, avoiding overeating, avoiding eating within two to three hours of bedtime, and trying to lose weight if you are overweight. Some people also prop the head of their bed six to eight inches.

Sometimes doctors recommend surgery for GERD, most commonly laparoscopic fundoplication. This procedure helps to prevent backwash of stomach contents into the esophagus. In some cases, the doctor may recommend weight loss surgery. Left untreated, GERD can cause problems in the esophagus, including ulcers, swallowing problems, or Barrett esophagus, a condition that increases the risk of esophageal cancer.

Sci-Fi Book Club

"Every Heart a Doorway" by Seanan McGuire. All adults welcome. No registration required. Monday, Oct. 14 at 6:30 pm.

Bookworms Adult Book Discussion

"The Dry" by Jane Harper. All adults welcome. No registration required. Tuesday, Oct. 8 at 10 am.

Tech Savvy Seniors

For older people in a digital world, it's easy to become overwhelmed or feel intimidated by all the new technology around us. Join us to discuss current tech topics and gain the skills and confidence to access information and services online. For adults. No registration required. Wed., Oct. 9 at 6:30 pm.

Home Improvement Month

Home Repair Services of Kent County will lead Fix-It School classes for the month of October. Oct. 9: Electrical, Oct. 16: Plumbing, Oct. 23: Tile, Oct. 30: Credit basics. For adults. Seating is limited; first come, first served. Doors open 30 minutes before the program begins and you may save one seat for a friend. Wednesdays at 6 pm.

Teen Zone

Teen-only fun for you and your friends at the library! Stop by for activities that may include board games, food and more. For teens. Mondays, Oct. 7-28, from 3:30-4:30 pm.

KDL Uncorked: Kombucha & Cheese Tasting, Henna Tattoos for Girls Night Out

Eat, drink and socialize! Bring your girlfriends and join us to sip Kombucha, nibble cheese, get a henna tattoo and create your very own gift bags from recycled paper. Cheese and chocolate tastings provided by the Cheese Lady from 6-7:30 pm. Kombucha tastings provided by Sacred Springs Kombucha. For teens and adults. Thurs., Oct 17 from 5-9 pm.

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VanLaan, Patrick Doyle,
Kurtis Clouser, Jr. |
| OCTOBER 10
Traci Newhouse,
Michele DeHaan. | OCTOBER 14
Ericka Onan, Barb
Erickson, Debra Duiven,
Court Duiven, Kyle
Hildenbrand, Stacey
Kinyon, Kelsey Callihan,
Caleb Baker, Jim Watrous. |
| OCTOBER 11
Susan Merriman,
Ashley Hendrick, Dale
Ruse. | OCTOBER 15
Jamie Roth, Jason
Roth, Elizabeth Raab, Mark
Russell, Jan Lippert, Annie
Oesch, Kevin Clouser,
Frank Grudzinskas, Doug
Felling. |
| OCTOBER 12
Neille Stephens, Becky
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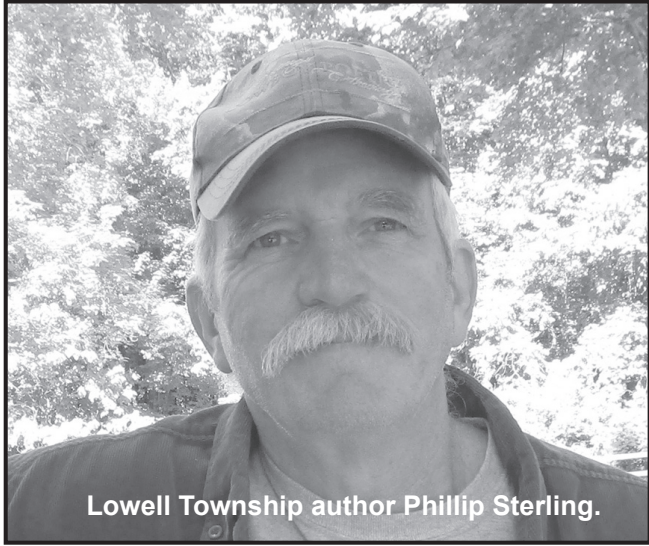
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LowellArts throws party for local author's new book



Lowell Township author Phillip Sterling.

A publication party for Lowell Township author Phillip Sterling's new book "Amateur Husbandry" will be held at LowellArts, 223 W. Main, at 6:30 pm on Thursday, Oct. 24. The author will read from his work at 7 pm; there

will also be refreshments, door prizes and copies of the book for sale at a discounted price. "Amateur Husbandry," published by Mayapple Press, is a collection of 38 fable-like micro-

fiction, stories the length of paragraphs, narrated by the marital partner of a yellow horse. Described by author Marc J. Sheehan as "playful," "sly," and "occasionally silly," the stories "do what short-short stories do best, [...] they push beyond their compression to create a fully realized world, putting both our foibles and our mercies on display."

Among the animals encountered in "Amateur Husbandry" are a flour-borrowing woodchuck, a dog that raises goldfish as a 4H project, an entrepreneurial seagull and a goat who wants to be Theodore Roosevelt for Halloween.

A former professor at Ferris State University, Phillip Sterling has won a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship, two senior Fulbright lectureships, a PEN Syndicated Fiction award and a Michigan Association of Governing Boards Distinguished Faculty award, and he has served as artist-in-residence for both Isle Royale National Park and Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. Sterling was the editor of "Isle Royale from the AIR: Poems, Stories, and Songs from 25 Years of Artists-in-Residence" published by Caffeinated Press. Sterling's previous books include a collection of fiction, "In Which Brief Stories Are Told," published by Wayne State

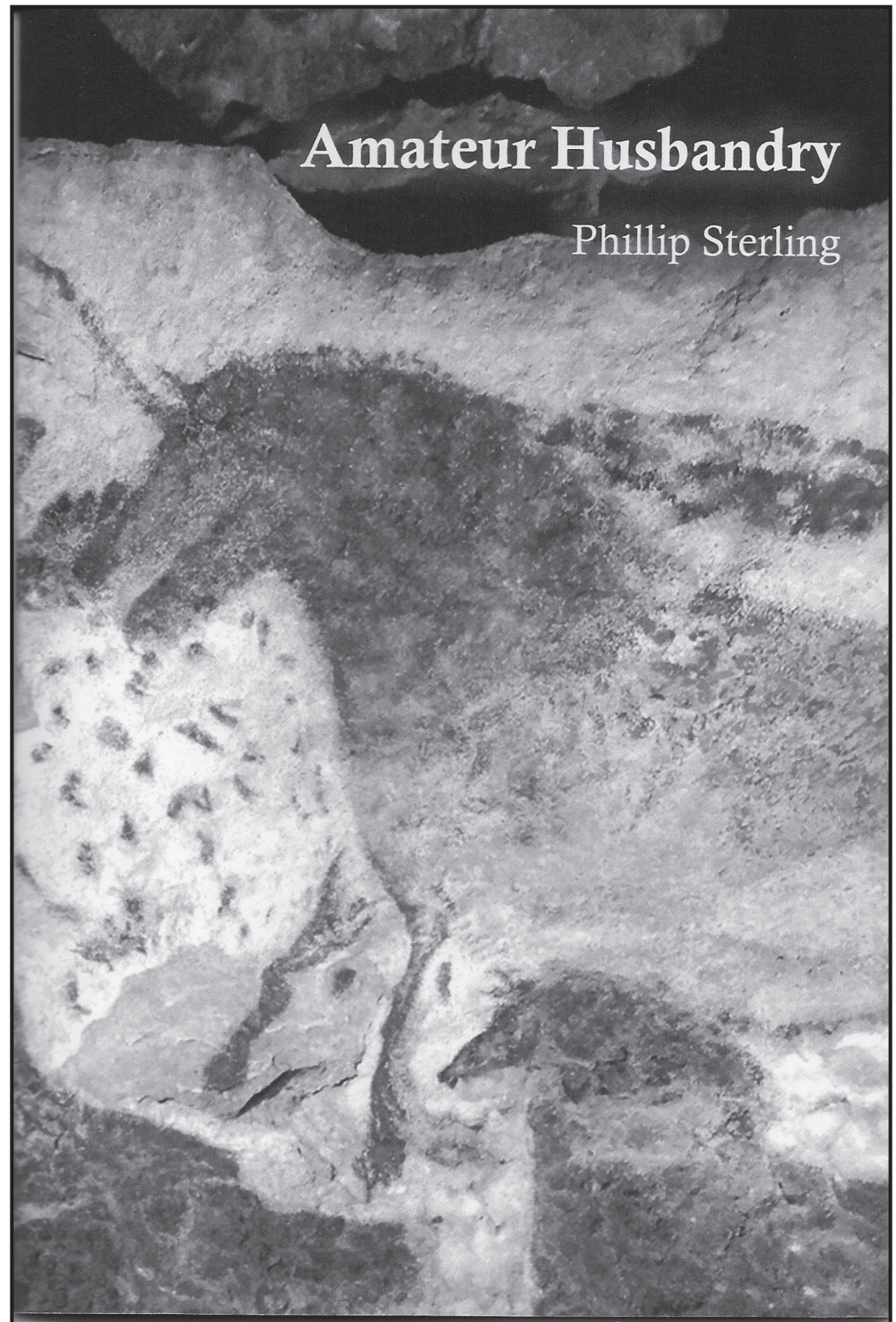
University Press, two full-length collections of poetry and four chapbook-length series of poems.

In November, Sterling will be offering a two-

session workshop at LowellArts on writing "flash" (short-form) fiction and nonfiction.

The "Amateur Husbandry" book is

available to purchase directly from Mayapple Press at mayapplepress.com. The price is lower through the end of October.



Council, continued

reduction and income tax administrative costs."

City leaders still plan to hold one more public information meeting about the proposed city income tax at city hall on Wednesday, Oct. 16 at 6 pm. The matter will go before voters on Tuesday, Nov. 5.

The council voted to renew the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce's lease of the city-owned building on the Riverwalk at \$1 a year for the next ten years.

"The only major difference to this lease and the previous lease is utility cost," Burns said. "The previous lease had a \$200 monthly cap for utilities, meaning the city would cover, in some instances, the amount of utilities over this amount. Going forward, all utility expenses will be paid in full by the Chamber of Commerce."

The council voted to pay Portland, MI-based Lites Plus \$10,671.90 to convert the lighting in city hall to more energy-efficient LED bulbs. After the work is done, which includes replacing the ballasts that hold the bulbs in place, the city will receive a \$2,620.52 rebate by taking advantage of the "Energy Smart" program. This will bring the final cost down to \$8,051.38.

Lowell city council's next regular meeting will be at 7 pm on Monday, Oct. 21, and the council will meet with the public during "Coffee with the Council" at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce building from 8 am until 10 am on Saturday, Nov. 2.

To watch various city council, board and commission meetings from the recent past, visit the "City of Lowell" or "Lowell Light and Power" channels on YouTube.

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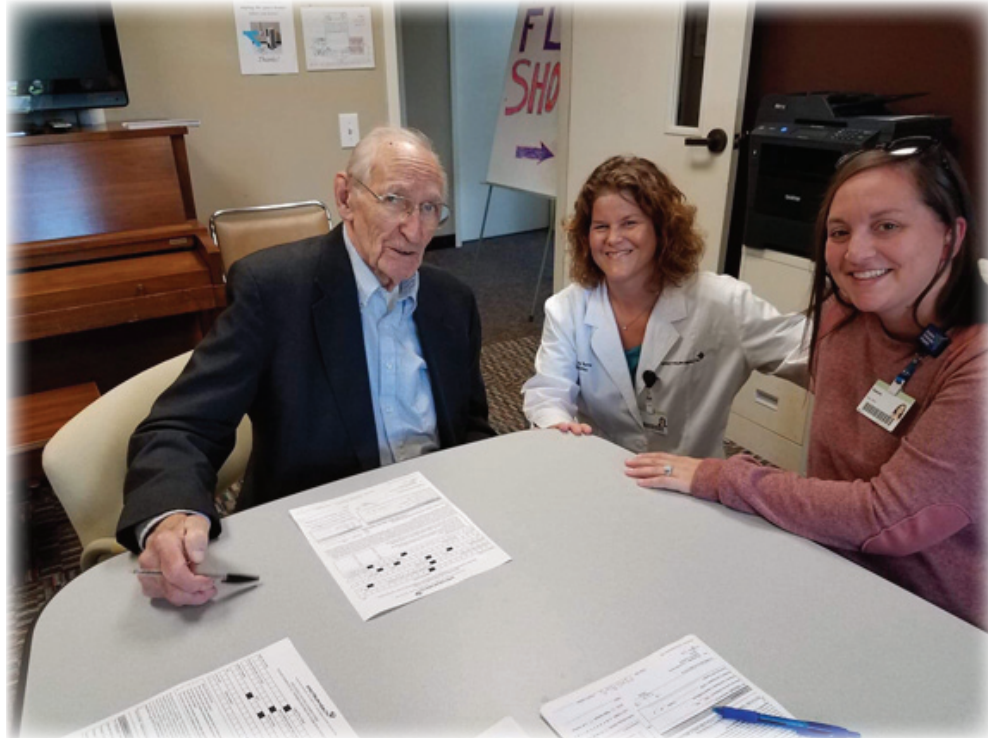
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“Aging in Place” senior services fair will be Oct. 19

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

There will be a senior services fair called “Aging in Place” at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 865 Lincoln Lake, from 10 am until 12:30 pm on Saturday, Oct. 19. The event will include guest speakers, vendors and a ton of information about many of the services available to older adults. They’ll also have a flu shot clinic that is open to the public, plus some light refreshments.

“The idea started last year,” said FCUCC pastor Jon Propper. “Like many churches, we have an older congregation. A number of our congregants expressed the feeling that they wanted access to support and resources, but they didn’t always know, as they got older, where to connect with those resources. Aging in Place came about as kind of a vendor fair, as a way for us to create a relaxing atmosphere where people could come, walk around, connect with folks and see what there is to be offered in the Lowell, Ada and greater-Grand Rapids area for senior citizens.



Hopefully they’ll either come away with some resources they don’t need now but may need later or with some things that are immediately useful. The idea is that sometimes aging can be really difficult and challenging, but you don’t necessarily have to do it alone and it doesn’t have to be an unstable, shaky feeling where you don’t know who to turn to for help.”

There will be speakers, vendors and

representatives from various organizations, all with information about services available for local seniors.

“We have speakers coming from Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program and we will also have a couple folks from the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan,” Propper said. “They are one of the organizations that help make something like this possible. They keep their ears to ground for a lot of services, and they’re usually the first place that we encourage our congregants to call if they have an immediate need that isn’t something within the church’s purview. Lowell Senior Neighbors will be there, and then we will also have some vendors, a local

fitness group, an assisted living program, the YMCA and a number of other groups. We cast as big a net as possible, last year it was really busy.”

If you haven’t had a flu shot yet, this could be your chance.

“We are also doing a flu shot clinic in a different part of the building for the folks who are already there,” Propper said. “Any friends or family who are around can certainly sign up for that as well. You’ll need an ID, your insurance card and a check. Sometimes, depending on what your insurance is, there is a fee. We’ll work that out with you when you’re there.”

For more information, visit lowellucc.org, call 616-897-5906, send a message to info@lowellucc.org or look for the church’s Facebook page.

“As people get older, some feel invisible,”

Propper said. “They feel unseen, they feel unheard, like they’re just not a priority anymore for the people in their lives or the institutions around them. An event like this is a way for us to do two things. One, it sends a message that we do see you, we want to support you, we love you and we want to meet you, regardless of whether you’re part of our church at all. This event is not about recruitment. Also, practically, it lets people know that there is a ton of stuff available in our community. Grand Rapids and its surrounding areas are really amazing in the amount of support that we can offer, it’s just a matter of connecting people to it, and this seems like an easy way to do that.”



Photos from last year’s senior services fair submitted by “Aging in Place” coordinator Candace Wise.

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Catch Up On Lowell High School Sports

the lowell ledger

FROM requests Neighbor to Neighbor applications

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Most homeowners are aware that winterizing a home will lower heating and energy bills, but some either can't afford the tools and materials involved or are physically

Ministries, Lowell Rotary and Impact Church will travel the Lowell countryside, winterizing and tidying up homes for the annual "Neighbor to Neighbor" fall clean-up spree.

to have winterization or fall clean up work done by a crew of Neighbor to Neighbor volunteers, who will perform chores such as checking insulation, checking furnaces, covering pipes, weather stripping, putting plastic on windows, raking leaves and cleaning gutters.

There is no financial hardship requirement to nominate a home for Neighbor to Neighbor, and homeowners are encouraged to pitch in as much as they are able to do so.

"This is about building community," said Dawn Broene, executive director of Flat River Outreach Ministries. "If the homeowner can help, we encourage that. We're here to help the homeowners do the work, if they are able."

Dr. Roger LaWarre, the main coordinator of Neighbor to Neighbor, will visit the nominated homes at some point

before Oct. 19 to determine what tools and materials and how many people are needed to get the work done with maximum efficiency.

They might still need volunteers, it depends on the number of requests and how complicated they are.

"If somebody wanted to volunteer, they could reach out to me at 616-897-8260 ext. 121, I could give them the information and they could join us," Broene said. "We might have it covered, but we would love if people wanted to check on that."

Applications are due at FROM, 11535 E. Fulton, by Saturday, Oct. 12.



Volunteers hard at work during the 2016 N2N event., winterizing and cleaning up area homes.



unable to do the work themselves. Therefore, on Saturday, Oct. 19, a crew of about 30 volunteers from Flat River Outreach

By filling out a simple application, you can nominate yourself or somebody else (with their permission, of course)

What is Neighbor to Neighbor (N2N)?

N2N grew out of the Rotary Club of Lowell's partnership with FROM to help winterize homes for families facing hardship. In 2012 the partnership expanded to include the *Lowell Ledger*. In 2019, Impact Church and community volunteers will also assist as FROM provides winterization and fall clean-up assistance (insulation, check furnace, cover pipes, weather stripping, plastic on windows, raking leaves, cleaning gutters, etc.) in partnership with homeowners in need.

How Does it Work?

You can submit a wish for your own home, or on behalf of another individual (with their permission) who is in need of winterization and fall clean-up assistance (insulation, check furnace, cover pipes, weather stripping, plastic on windows, raking leaves, cleaning gutters, etc.) FROM's goal is that the homeowner would be willing to partner with the volunteers.

FROM will contact each household for a pre-qualification phone interview and to determine if the homeowner is willing/able to assist the volunteer team in some way.

Your application does not guarantee that the wish will be fulfilled. FROM will work with the Lowell Rotary Club, Impact Church and local volunteers to fulfill a limited number of wishes. The program is available only to those living in the Lowell Area School District.

For questions please contact FROM at 897-8260 or email at info@fromlowell.org.

Completed applications must be emailed or dropped off to FROM by October 12, 2019.



Neighbor to Neighbor Application

(due to FROM by Oct 12, 2019)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Application submitted by: _____

Phone: _____

A brief description of the work needed & why you need assistance – tell us your story:



**FLAT RIVER
OUTREACH
MINISTRIES**



Red Arrow

- HOMECOMING

SPORTS

Homecoming king and queen crowned

by Sierra Hieshetter
contributing reporter

The game may have started early on Friday afternoon, but the festivities were in full swing by half time at Lowell's annual Homecoming game. With Lowell up 48-0, the Homecoming court took the field, and Lowell High School crowned Jenna Perry as its 2019 Homecoming Queen.

Earlier in the day at a school pep assembly, Isiah Perysian had been crowned Homecoming King and the spectators waited eagerly to discover who his partner

would be. Seniors Mary Jo Beuchler and Malcolm Venema, the Masters of Ceremonies, made the announcement.

"The coolest thing is being recognized by my peers and everyone in the student body," said senior court member Lucas Cossar. "I like how close knit we are as a community, and how we all can be friends and accepting."

The Lowell High School 2019 Homecoming court members are as follows:

Freshman: Amelia Hancock and Ethan Orth

Sophomores: Alexis Verstrate and Owen Carpenter

Juniors: Madison Alcala and Brett Spanbauer

Senior Girls: Mya Kaywood, Alyssa Melnik, Kyla Sanders, Krin Beach

Senior Boys: Anderson Anschutz, Grant Pratt, Bret Evink, Lucas Cossar

Homecoming King: Isiah Perysian

Homecoming Queen: Jenna Perry



Masters of Ceremonies Mary Jo Beuchler and Malcolm Venema run the halftime festivities. Photo by Sierra Hieshetter.



Crowned homecoming queen is Jenna Perry and homecoming king is Isiah Perysian. Photo courtesy of Heather Perysian.



The band performed during the halftime festivities. Photo by Justin Scott.

Tennis ties Northview, beats Ottawa Hills last week

by Justin Scott
contributing reporter

Lowell defeated Ottawa Hills 8-0 and tied Northview 4-4 in last week's OK conference tennis matchups.

Sam Vandenhout came up from JV for the tennis team's match against Ottawa Hills. Along with playing partner Connor Kleinedler, he was one of six LHS flights to win 6-0, 6-0. The others were first singles Collier Kaufman, second singles Miles Droski, third singles Will Devoest, first doubles Aiden Kelley and

Winton Garrelts, and third doubles Max Del Rosario and Alex Kleinedler.

Second doubles Terrick Stewart and Patrick Devoest only lost one game, winning 6-0, 6-1.

Fourth doubles Ty Knottnerus received a win via forfeit. He competed in an exciting three-set match in Lowell's dual meet with Northview falling short by a score of 2-6, 6-2, 3-6. In the other three-set match, the team of Kelley and Garrelts pulled off a 6-0, 2-6, 6-4 win. Droski, Will Devoest,

and the team of Stewart and Patrick Devoest also won points for LHS in the 4-4 tie with Northview.

It was the last home match of the season for the varsity tennis team. LHS will compete at regionals this Thursday.

Senior Collier Kaufman prepares to serve against his Northview opponent.



Red Arrow

- FOOTBALL

SPORTS

Red Arrows to host battle of conference unbeatens

by Justin Scott
contributing reporter

The Lowell Red Arrows varsity football team (4-2) scored early and often in a 62-16 win over Ottawa Hills (1-5) in the annual homecoming game. It was only the second time Lowell had scored over 60 points in a game since 2010 when it happened twice.

LHS got off to a quick start leading 14-0 late in the first quarter and never looked back. Lowell's defense would hold Ottawa Hills to just five first downs the entire game, and went into halftime up 48-0. First half touchdowns were

scored by Doak Dean (4), Brett Spanbauer (2), and Andy Anschutz (1) from a Spanbauer pass.

It was Ottawa Hills who struck first in the second half on a long touchdown pass. Lowell would respond with a 40-yard touchdown run by Anschutz to make it 55-8. The lopsided second-half score allowed the team to rotate players in and out.

Cole Huisman would dive for a touchdown with 10:02 remaining for the final LHS score of the game. Ottawa Hills would tack on one more touchdown in the closing minutes. Justin Wade



Senior center, Keegan Laux directs the offense with a blow out win over Ottawa Hills.



Cole Huisman running after a catch against Ottawa Hills. Huisman was called up from the JV team this week.

hit eight of his nine extra point attempts in the win. Lowell outgained Ottawa Hills 375-149 throughout the game and forced four Bengal turnovers.

The threat of the mosquito-carried Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) virus continued to push athletic events up across the board last week out of precaution.

The 5 pm kickoff led to the cancelation of the annual homecoming parade. The Lowell powderpuff football game was also postponed to a later date not due to the EEE threat, but due to field conditions and rainy weather last Wednesday. While some activities were postponed or cancelled, a majority of homecoming

activities including spirit week, and homecoming dance festivities continued. The EEE threat will continue until the first hard frost.

The win sets up a battle of undefeated OK White conference teams that will help decide the league champion. Lowell will host Cedar Springs this Friday (10/11) at Bob Perry Field

in not only an important conference game, but also senior night. Kickoff is scheduled for 5 pm.

The Red Hawks enter the game at 5-1 overall with a 3-0 conference record. Lowell is 4-2 overall with a 3-0 conference record. It will be the last home football game of the year.

LHS varsity volleyball keeps winning streak going

by Justin Scott
contributing reporter

State-ranked Lowell volleyball continued their dominating play over the past two weeks having now won twenty-one of their past twenty-two matches.

In OK White action, Lowell defeated both Greenville and Forest Hills Central. The ladies topped Greenville 3-0, and found themselves tied 1-1 with Forest Hills Central before dominating in the next two sets. FHC was ranked honorable mention in the latest Michigan Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Association rankings. Lowell sits at the top of the conference standings with an undefeated record.

The team moved to 30-2 over the weekend knocking off the top ranked team in division three (Schoolcraft) in the process. At the East Grand Rapids Invitational, Lowell defeated Forest Hills Eastern, Coldwater, and GR West Catholic in pool play.

The Red Arrows then defeated Lakewood in the quarterfinals, and another win over West Catholic moved them into the finals against Schoolcraft. Lowell would go on to beat Schoolcraft comfortably in the finals 2-0 (25-12, 25-14). The Red Arrows are currently ranked number three in division one, with their only two losses on the season coming at the hands

of the number two ranked Hudsonville team.

Statistics leaders from the EGR Invitational

Aces: Jenna Reitsma-11, Sophie Powell-8

Kills: Reitsma-79, Meghan Meyer-46, Kambry Kloosterman-17

Blocks: Meyer-7, Emily Struckmeyer-5, Aubreigh Oswald-5, Sophie Powell-5

Assists: Powell-142
Digs- Reitsma-41, Hall-41, Kloosterman-27



Lowell volleyball celebrates winning the EGR Invitational.

obituaries

YEITER

Gary Curtis Yeiter, 65, of Port Charlotte, Florida and a former Lowell resident was called to Heaven September 11, 2019. He was born in Rosenheim, Germany where he was adopted by American parents. Gary was a hard and conscientious worker. He had been employed at his father's Tupperware warehouse, Erb Lumber and many years in property management at Boca Grande Club, an upscale condominium firm. Gary's hobby and the love of his life was his family, which included his best fur buddy, Chewy. Gary is described as "the rock" of his family. He survived lung cancer, but diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis in 2014. He gave the fibrosis a great fight, but it eventually won. Gary was preceded in death by his parents, Sam and Ida Yeiter of Lowell. Gary will be greatly missed by his wife of 41 years, Connie; sons, Jason (Meagan) and Eric (Dawn); his grandchildren whom he cherished, Emma, Layla, Matthew and Blake Yeiter; his sister, Crista Yeiter Simmons; and many family, friends and coworkers. Cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life Service will be announced at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation, 203 E. Ohio St., Chicago, IL 60611.



Workshops for Health & Wellbeing

With fall in the air, have you told yourself, "I want to improve not only my body, but my whole being,"? How do I go about doing this, you ask?

One great way to get started is to attend Lowell United Methodist Church's Holistic Ministries Workshops for Health & Wellbeing. On Saturday, October 19, located at 621 E. Main Street, Lowell, the day begins with a Welcome Gathering at 8:55 am. You will be provided the opportunity to attend up to

four different workshops that will nourish your body, soul and spirit. Cost is only \$5 to attend one or all of the presentations; pay \$10 for presentations, plus a healthy lunch. Registration is at the door.

The following speakers and demos will be offered:

9-10 am – Perry, from Perry's Place LLC in Cedar Springs presenting, "How Teas and Essential Oils Benefit the Body"

10:15-11:15 am – Learn how your breath and deep breathing is crucial

to good holistic health. Tricia Eldridge, founder of Energy Touch® School of Advanced Healing will lead this self-help session.

11:30 am-12 pm – A Healthy lunch is being prepared and served by members of "A Taste of Vegetarian" project.

12-12:45 pm – Linda and Dayana, friends from "A Taste of Vegetarian" project, will be offering a food demo on healthy eating and provide recipes you can create at home.

1-2:30 pm – Bring a

mat (or towel) with you to our "Tibetan Singing Bowls Concert," being held in our upstairs hall. Mark Handler will talk about and play singing bowls ranging from 100-500 years old. As you sit and listen to these melodic sounds, vibrations are created that may help to provide stress relief and overall peace.

Phone 897-5936 or go to their Facebook at Lowell United Methodist Church with any questions you may have. Pre-registration is not necessary.

Changing your direct deposit information with Social Security

With our busy lives, it's easy to fall into that cycle of postponing some tasks because of other priorities. This may be true for you when it comes to changing your payment method for Social Security benefits. Unfortunately, forgetting to change your payment method can lead to delayed payments.

The most convenient way to change your direct deposit information with Social Security is by creating a *my Social Security* account online at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount. Once you create your account, you can update your bank information without leaving the comfort of your home.

Another way to change your direct deposit is by calling Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) to make the change over the phone. If you prefer to speak to someone in-person, you can visit your local Social Security office with the necessary information.

Because we are committed to protecting your personal information, we need some form of identification to verify who you are. If you are online, we verified your identity when you initially created your *my Social Security* account. All you need to do is log in at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount with your secure username and password

to gain access to your information.

If you call Social Security, we will ask identifying questions to ensure we are speaking to the right person. If you visit the office, you will need to bring a driver's license or some form of ID with you. Once we have identified that you are the correct person and are authorized to make changes on the Social Security record, all we need is the routing number, account number, and type of account established. We don't ask for a voided check, nor do we obtain verification from the bank. Therefore, you should be sure you are providing accurate information to us.

Because you may be unsure if your direct deposit change will affect your next payment, we highly recommend that you do not

close the old bank account until you have seen your first Social Security deposit in the new bank account. That way, you can feel secure you will receive your benefits on time, regardless of when the change was reported to Social Security.

When you have to report changes to your direct deposit, be sure to visit us online at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount. Social Security always strives to put you in control by providing the best experience and service no matter where, when, or how you decide to do business with us.

Vonda VanTil is the Public Affairs Specialist for West Michigan. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 3045 Knapp NE, Grand Rapids MI 49525 or via email at vonda.vantil@ssa.gov.

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The years may pass but still you stay as near and dear as yesterday.

FOREVER MISSED, YOUR FAMILY

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

3	4	9	8	7	2	5	6	1
8	2	5	4	6	1	7	3	9
7	6	1	9	3	5	8	4	2
2	5	7	3	8	9	6	1	4
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FALL SPORTS SCHEDULE

BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY
 * Denotes a meet at LHS
 10/12 at 10 am Kent Ottawa Classic at Gainey Athletic Complex
 10/16 at 4:30 pm OK White Jamboree #4 at Riverside Park

BOYS VARSITY FOOTBALL
 * Denotes a home game at Red Arrow Stadium
 10/11 at 4:30 pm Cedar Springs* - Senior Parent Night
 10/18 at 7 pm at FHC

GIRLS VARSITY VOLLEYBALL
 * Denotes a home game
 10/12 at 8 am Redwing Invitational
 10/15 at 6 pm at Lakewood
 10/17 at 4:45 OK White Tri*

BOYS VARSITY SOCCER
 * Denotes a home game at Red Arrow Stadium
 10/9 time TBA Districts

SWIM & DIVE
 10/14 time TBA MISCA Meet
 10/17 at 6 pm Wayland Union
 10/24 at 6 pm Ottawa Hills at City High

office hours:
Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Fri. 8 a.m. - noon
closed Sat. & Sun.

classifieds

for sale

1999 SUBURBAN LT - 192,439 miles, 4x4 runs good, leather interior. Brakes do not work has to be towed. Closed bid please send all offers to Steve Turnbull at 12695 Foreman St. Lowell, MI 49331.

EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE AND VALUE - Requires less wood & provides more heat. Central Boiler certified Classic Edge OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE. Call today! 616-554-8669. SOS Property Maintenance LLC, 6950 Hammond Ave, Caledonia. We are your local sales, service & parts dealer! ^{TFN}

GLOCK 43 - 9 mm, excellent condition, \$400. Cash only. Call 616-970-3563.

FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR - New, blemished in freight. Cost \$2688,; sell \$850. 1 year warranty. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. See us on Facebook. ^{TFN}

REACH OVER 100,000 AREA HOMES - with our Marketplace! One call & one payment, only \$40! Includes 20 words & 1 black & white photo. Only items for sale please. Perfect place to advertise a vehicle or camper for sale! The ad runs in the Lowell Buyer's Guide & News, Hastings Reminder, Marshall Advisor/Chronicle & Battle Creek Shopper News. Call 897-9555, email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com or stop by 105 N. Broadway for more info.

PIONEER POLE BUILDINGS - Free Estimates - Licensed and insured - 2x6 Trusses - 45 Year Warranty Galvalume Steel - 19 Colors - Since 1976 - #1 in Michigan - Call Today 1-800-292-0679.

USED TIRES - Call with size, 616-292-7649/616-295-8820. Rob's Auto - thanks. ^{TFN}

FREE AD! - Place & pay for a classified ad in the Buyers Guide & Lowell Ledger for 3 weeks & receive the 4th week FREE! You must mention the special in order to receive this offer. Valid only with new classified ads & must be paid for when ad is placed. Call 897-9555.

misc.

PORK STEAK DINNER - Fri., Oct. 11, 5 - 7:30 p.m. Sunday Breakfast, Oct. 13, 8-11 a.m. Public welcome. Alto American Legion Post 528, 6056 Linfield, Alto. 868-6490.

PUBLIC SIGHT-IN - Qua-Ke-Zik Sportsman's Club will host a supervised sight-in for deer rifles/shotguns at their range facility at 8731 W Riverside Dr., Saranac. This service is free to the public and will be held October 26th and 27th from 10 am to 3 pm. For more information go to Qua-ke-zik.org.

for rent

WE DO BUSINESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING LAW - Equal Housing Opportunity. It is illegal to discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin in the sale or rental of housing or residential lots; in the advertising the sale or rental of housing, in the financing of housing. Anyone who feels he or she has been discriminated against may file a complaint of housing discrimination: 1-800-669-9777 (toll free) 1-800-927-9275 (TTY).

PRICELESS STORAGE - Indoor/outdoor. New Units on Alden Nash, 1 mile South of I96. Call for specials 558-2900. ^{TFN}

HALL FOR RENT - Lowell Veteran's Center, 3116 Alden Nash. Newly remodeled, smoke-free, private, great location & great rate! www.VFW8303.org. All Vets Coffee Hour the 3rd Thursday of each month at Keiser's. Bring a friend. Call John at 299-0486 or 897-8303. ^{TFN EOW}

STORAGE SPACE FOR RENT - Indoor with cement floor & large overhead door. Could store boat or medium sized trailer. Call 616-897-5898.

sales

GARAGE SALE - Oct. 10, 12-7; Oct. 11 & 12, 8-6. 11821 Red Arrow Ct., Lowell (Alden Nash West). Household items, Christmas decorations, adult clothes, children's toys, weight bench, loft bed & more.

help wanted

MCDONALD'S IN ADA IS HIRING! - Work while your kids are in school & have a great flexible schedule! We offer a great job with competitive pay, **(premium pay for openers 4:30 am or closers 11 pm)**, health & dental insurance & now free meal plans. **We also offer a college tuition assistance \$10,000 to every employee!** Stop on in at our New Ada McDonalds (7100 Fulton Street) for an application or even easier.... Just text **"apply16773" to 36453 and an application will come to your phone.**

TAKING APPLICATIONS - Buyers Guide walking and driving route carriers. Must be dependable! Work less than 1 day a week! Get paid weekly, pickup papers at Buyers Guide office. Apply in person, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. No phone calls accepted regarding this position.

wanted

I WANT TO BUY - Refrigerator, stove, washer, dryer & furniture in good shape. Have cash. 989-584-6818. ^{TFN}

WANTED FREON R12: We pay CASH. R12 R500 R11 Convenient, Certified Professionals (312) 291-9169 RefrigerantFinders.com/ads (MICH)

services

TWO BROTHERS AUTO SERVICE - 30 years experience, state certified, licensed & insured. Open Mon - Fri. 8 am - 5 pm. 5400 Ivan Road, Saranac, call for a quote on auto repairs - 642-9180.

services

PATRIOT STONE - kitchen & bath countertops & vanities. We fabricate, sell & install. Granite & quartz. Call for information, Steve Misner, 616-329-7274.

BUSINESS CARDS - Before you order your cards from somewhere else - check our rates! Call Lowell Litho, 897-9261.

NOREEN K. MYERS, ATTORNEY AT LAW - Compassionate, experienced, effective legal representation. Specialties include: wills & trusts, work related injuries, employment discrimination. 307 E. Main, Lowell, 897-5460.

SNOW PLOW SERVICE - Lowell, Saranac, Alto area. 28 years experience. 10% discount for early signup. Please call 616-808-0276.

services

WORK WANTED - Double D's Bucket Van & Handyman Service. 40' bucket, tree trimming & removal, gutters, window washing, power washing, buildings, barns, homes, decks, etc. Insured. Call Dave Delinsky, 616-212-3008. Free estimates.

HANDY REPAIR SERVICE - All kinds of service work: locks rekeyed, deadbolts installed, screen & window repair. Call Bob Ford, 299-3198. ^{TFN}

NEED A DUMPSTER? - Dumpster rental, 10-20 yards. Mention this ad for \$10 to \$20 off. Call or text Doug for estimates at 616-295-6640. ^{TFN}

LAMINATING SERVICE AVAILABLE - Next day service. Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

services

UPS SHIPPING COPY SERVICE, (black & white & color!) FAX SERVICE, LAMINATING PRINTING BANNERS POSTERS & MUCH MORE AVAILABLE AT THE LOWELL LEDGER BUYERS GUIDE 105 N. Broadway

HOURS
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 Fri. 8-noon
 Ph. 897-9261
 Fax 897-4809

Community Calendar

October

AND ONGOING EVENTS

PLEASE NOTE - Coming Events are for non-profit organizations. If you are charging admission for an event - it is considered an advertisement. Coming events are on a space available basis & **ARE NOT GUARANTEED.** If you would like to make sure your event is placed in the paper, please call our office & place it as a classified ad. We will not accept ANY Garage or sales (including fundraisers) as a coming event. All Coming Events or changes to coming events should be submitted by fax: 897-4809, email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com, by mail: PO Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or in person: 105 N. Broadway.

HOME IMPROVEMENT MONTH - Home repair services of Kent County will lead Fix-It School classes for the month of October. Oct. 16 - plumbing; Oct. 23 - tile; Oct. 30 - credit basics. For adults. Seating is limited; first come, first served. Doors open 30 minutes before the program begins and you may save one seat for a friend. Wednesdays, 6 pm. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

GROSS SENSORY CHALLENGE - Oct. 22 from 1-2 pm. All ages welcome to attend. This will put you and your kiddos in a Halloween mood! Guess what's in each mystery container. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

FAMILY STORY TIME - Now - Nov. 7. Read & sing together. Enjoy stories, music, movement & rhymes that develop early literacy skills and encourage everyone in the family to share their love of reading. For children ages 6 & younger with a caregiver. Siblings are welcome to attend as well. Thursdays at 10 am. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

MAHJONG AT THE LIBRARY - Now - Nov. 29. Join us on Friday afternoons for American Mahjong; a game of skill, strategy & calculation. All skill levels welcome. Bring your own mahjong set or borrow ours. For teens & adults. Fridays at 1 pm. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

TEEN ZONE - Now - Nov. 18, Mondays at 3:30 pm. Teen-only fun for you & your friends at the library. Stop by for activities that may include board games, food & more. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

KDL UNCORKED: KOMBUCHA & CHEESE TASTING FOR LADIES NIGHT - Oct. 17, 5-9pm. Eat, drink & socialize! Sip Kombucha, nibble cheese & create your very own gift bags from recycled paper. For teens & adults. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

FAMILY YOGA - Now - Nov. 30. Family yoga is an all-ages activity with a focus on the benefits of mindfulness. Together we will engage in fun poses, learn how to breathe, be creative with yoga activities/games and relax. Space is limited; first come, first served. Doors open 30 minutes prior to the program. For ages 3 and up. Saturdays at 11 am. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

MINECRAFT CLUB - Nov. 4. Get your Minecraft fix & show off your world-building skills. The library has a limited number of computers & licenses for Minecraft. First come, first served. No registration required. If you are able, bring a laptop with Wi-Fi capabilities & Minecraft installed & join us! For ages 6 & older. Mondays at 4:30 pm. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

SENSORY TODDLER TIME - Now - Nov. 12. Nurture your toddler's love of books through music, movement & stories while helping to develop their language, motor & social skills. For children ages 3 & younger with a caregiver. Tuesdays at 6:30 pm. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS - Sign up a team at the library. For grades 3 - 5. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

TECH SAVVY SENIORS - Nov. 13 at 6:30 pm. For older people in a digital world, it's easy to become overwhelmed or feel intimidated by all the new technology around us. Join us to discuss current tech topics & gain the skills & confidence to access information & services online. For adults. No registration required. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

TEEN & ADULT FEAR FACTOR FOOD PROGRAM - Oct. 10, 4-6 pm. Teen Wednesday group will participate in this Thursday program instead of a Wednesday event this month. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

GROSS SENSORY CHALLENGE - Oct. 24, 3-5 pm. All ages welcome to attend. This will put you and your kiddos in a Halloween mood! Guess what's in each mystery container. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

COOKBOOK CLUB - Oct. 28 at 6:30 pm. "Mill Street Tuesday Nights" by Christopher Kimball. Join us for an informal discussion about cookbooks & sample delectable examples, potluck style. Stop by the branch for more details. For ages 14 & up. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

FALL FEST - Oct. 31, 10 am. Celebrate the season with autumn crafts, games & process art. **Please bring your own mini pumpkin.** For children ages 6 & under with a caregiver. Siblings are welcome to attend as well. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

ATTENTION SENIORS - Every Friday evening seniors get together for conversation, food, dancing and music. Cunningham Acre, 4980 W. Pepper Lake Rd. on route M-50, 1 1/4 miles W. of Lake Odessa. For more information contact Betty at 616-374-7512.

downloadable library materials, etc. Please call to schedule your appointment, 616-693-1001. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville.

WOMEN FOR SOBRIETY - meets every Monday, 7-8 p.m. at Bowne Center United Methodist Church, fellowship hall, 12051 84th St., corner of Alden Nash. Call Sue at 868-6219 or www.womenforsobriety.org

CELEBRATE RECOVERY - a Christ-centered, Biblically-based 12 step program for people with hurts, hang-ups and habits. Meets every Thursday from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at Impact, 11840 Fulton St., Lowell. Open to all who are 18 years or older. Fourth Thursday of each month is Chip Night when we celebrate a meal together starting at 6 pm.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY - meets the second Monday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Historical Museum at 84th/ Alden Nash.

ART LAB - Third Tuesday of the month from 4-6 pm. A monthly art exploration with a different theme each month for ages 5 and up. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

NEEDLERS - Meet the second & fourth Tuesday of the month from 5 to 8 pm at Franciscan Life Processing Center, 11650 Downes St. NE, Lowell.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE - third Monday at 7:30 p.m. for business meeting.

ALTO AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY - meets the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Alto American Legion Post.

V.F.W. POST #8303 - meets the first Monday at 7 p.m. at 3116 Alden Nash S.E.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 102 - every Monday, 7-8:30 p.m. during school year in Scout Cabin at the end of N. Washington St. Ages 11 and up or completing 5th grade. Call Scoutmaster Clay VanderWarf, 616-485-3429 or Del Rockwell at 897-6814.

MLE staff member and volunteer of the month



Alice Bush

Murray Lake Elementary's Staff Member of the Month is Alice Bush. Staff members nominated her because, "She does her job so well and is always willing to help with any other needs that come up. Bush commented, "It's so exciting to work at Murray Lake where everyone works together to create a positive, caring environment. I'm happy to be able to provide support to our staff, students and families. Murray Lake is awesome. There's no other place I'd rather be."



Lisa Verburg

Lisa Verburg is Murray Lake Elementary's Volunteer of the Month for September. Verburg volunteers in the media center every Monday morning. Patti Harreld is grateful for her help. "The library is such a busy place so it has been wonderful to have her support" said Harreld. Verburg commented, "I like volunteering at MLE because I get to interact with the wonderful staff and students and no matter if I am volunteering in the library or the classroom, I like knowing that I have hopefully made the staff's job a little less hectic that day."



Learn how to lower your risk of liver cancer during Liver Cancer Awareness Month

Liver cancer is the sixth leading cause of cancer deaths in Michigan, and between 2008 and 2017, liver cancer mortality increased by 46 percent. To help raise awareness and promote early detection and prevention of liver cancer, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is urging Michigan residents to take steps to lower their risk of liver cancer.

New cases of liver cancer continue to rise in Michigan. Between 2007 and 2016, Michigan saw an increase of 50 percent in liver cancer incidence. Moreover, liver cancer has the third lowest survival rate of any type of cancer with a five-year survival rate of 18 percent.

In the United States, chronic hepatitis B or hepatitis C infection are leading causes of liver cancer, making up 65 percent of factors contributing to liver cancer incidence. However, most people with hepatitis B or hepatitis C do not

know they are infected because these infections rarely cause symptoms.

"Michiganders can reduce their risk of liver cancer through early detection and disease prevention," said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health for MDHHS. "Talk to your healthcare provider about possible risk factors and hepatitis testing."

To identify current infections, Michiganders should get tested for hepatitis B and hepatitis C by contacting their healthcare provider or local health department. For individuals with no prior exposure to the hepatitis B virus, infection can be prevented with a vaccine.

For individuals experiencing active infection with hepatitis B and/or hepatitis C, treatments are available that can reduce their risk of liver cancer. Hepatitis C treatments can cure more than 95 percent of persons infected with hepatitis C.

During Live Cancer Awareness Month, Michiganders are urged to:

Identify your risk for hepatitis B and/or hepatitis C by taking the CDC's 5-minute online Hepatitis Risk Assessment at Cdc.gov/Hepatitis/RiskAssessment/

Get tested if you are at risk. Talk to your healthcare provider or local health department about getting a simple blood test for hepatitis B and/or hepatitis C.

Protect yourself and your loved ones from hepatitis B by getting vaccinated.

If you are currently infected with hepatitis B and/or hepatitis C, talk to your healthcare provider about treatment options. There are treatments for hepatitis B that can lower your risk of liver cancer and new and effective hepatitis C treatments with minimal side effects.

Follow a healthy lifestyle, such as regular exercise and consuming a healthy diet with limited amounts of alcohol. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to cirrhosis (scarring) of the liver.

For more information on viral hepatitis and testing and vaccination recommendations, visit Cdc.gov/Hepatitis or Michigan.gov/Hepatitis. For more information on liver cancer, visit Cdc.gov/Cancer/Liver.

"Olympics" event helps students explore high-demand manufacturing careers

Star Crane and Hoist hosted its annual Olympics aimed at helping students explore career opportunities in manufacturing.

The family-owned business makes, sells, services, installs and repairs cranes and hoists. The company has hosted local high school students to participate in its Star Crane Olympics event, which puts student skills to the test during a crane and maneuvering obstacle course, for several years to expose students to careers in manufacturing.

The freshmen and sophomores from Allendale High School competed for the top prize - unlimited bragging rights.

"Getting the chance to operate a crane and learn more about the maintenance and electrical side of the job was a cool experience. I had a great time," sophomore Brandon Holstege said. "I'm exploring my options and looking at applying to the career and technical education program in the



Brandon Holstege, a sophomore at Allendale High School, learns how to operate a crane during Manufacturing Week at Star Crane and Hoist.

future because a manufacturing career may be the right fit for me."

With over 200 events happening around the state during Michigan Manufacturing Week, the Allendale-based company and Going PRO Talent Fund grant recipient opened its door to 30 high school students to showcase what careers are available in manufacturing at the facility.

Michigan has more than 11,386 unique manufacturing firms, which account for 635,500 jobs and contributes \$98.64 billion into the global economy annually, proving the significant role manufacturing plays in Michigan's continued economic triumphs.

"We've established great partnerships in the community with groups such as West Michigan Works! and the Allendale Chamber of Commerce that help make this event a success," said Craig Derks, CEO, Star Crane and Hoist, Inc. "The career opportunities are plentiful within the company, and with the intent of providing a fun experience to young talent, we've been able to build a pathway to help fill our openings."

While the Star Crane Olympics turns out to be a quick introduction into crane maintenance and fabrication jobs, the program has seen success with offering an in-depth, hands-on summer co-op to students interested in learning more about the available highly skilled positions within the company.

To learn more about Manufacturing Day and statewide events, visit mfgday.com. For additional information on manufacturing careers in Michigan, visit going-pro.com/mfgweek.



Drop in!
FOR FALL SAVINGS
from your hometown merchants!

FUN PAGE

SUDOKO

3		9				5		
					1	7	3	
	6		9			8		
		7	3					4
	1			5	4	2		
		2		4			5	3
			1		8			
9					3	1		

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

HARVEST WORD SEARCH

R Y T D D W O C L F E V U R F C T G B H
M A V I O L Y S K F W V H G U B W N U H
I H K U G W K M G A L E V L Y O P I E U
L E A T L B U H M U D P T Y T P D L L G
L R E Y N P U S B M W I D U I S K L S L
M U V N F O L K H K V W M R D Y B I S H
S N E U O D E U C A C S M L O T G T I I
T A G H S I H S T L R I A E M U N W R K
M M N T E B S E V Y G V P C M H I A A T
L S A F W C U O N A Y W E F O O W W Y V
E V R L N A B E R W N E W S C S O D A W
I G G C O G F L F E O G U N T B S O C E
G D A I W O L L A F F W M Y L H K S U H
S P Y R D H Y R S A F U D P Y S C K O G
S L I L O E L I Y H T P L V H W M R M V
D I I I R F E I U U K H V C S N C N B K
O P S S A R G F A B R G L M G C O R N A
I U H E L D A R C L C R O P S U R C C K
A F A R M B V W W A F T R K H G F Y C V
D M R N K O R C H A R D W G B M Y G B L

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

Puzzle solutions on page 12

HARVEST WORD SEARCH

CRADLE CROPS CULTIVATE

FLAIL FORAGE GRANGE

MANURE MILL ORCHARD

AUTUMN BUSHEL COMMODITY CORN

EROSION FALLOW FARM FEED

GRASS HARVEST HAY HUSK

PICK SOWING TILLING

Guess Who?

I am a singer/songwriter born in Pennsylvania on October 11, 1946. My parents both had musical backgrounds so music was a natural choice for me. I met my future bandmate in college. We were a successful duo with many hits in the 70s and 80s.

Answer: Daryl Hall

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to the harvest.

P R N E I

--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Ripen

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
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51				52	53	54				55			56	57
		58								59				
60	61						62	63					64	
65							66						67	
68							69						70	

CLUES ACROSS

- Google certification
- Cloths spread over coffins
- Disorderly
- "Star Wars" hero Solo
- Toward the rear
- The order of frogs
- Alternative pain treatment (abbr.)
- "Wolf of Wall Street" star
- Evoke
- Units of metrical time
- Helps to predict eclipses
- Some say they attract
- Pitching statistic
- Baseball box score (abbr.)
- Force unit
- Repaired shoe
- English theologian
- Commercial
- Exchange money for goods or services
- Give off
- One from Utah
- Computer department
- Begets
- English navigator
- C C C
- Of I
- Pouch
- Add notes to
- A way to fall into ruin

- Cunning intelligence
- Blood disorder
- Disgraced CBS newsman
- Tax collector
- Type of grass common to the Orient
- Cosmic intelligence
- No (Scottish)
- People who rely on things
- Stairs have them
- Mathematical term (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

- Clarified butters
- Primitive Himalayan people
- Completely
- Steep cliffs along the Hudson River
- Assist
- Language spoken in Laos
- Type of screen
- An attempt to economize
- Volcanic craters
- Still outstanding
- Takes responsibility for another
- California think tank
- Former Rocket Ming
- A pigeon noise
- Central part of
- Academy Award statue
- Distinct unit of sound

- Relative on the female side of the family
- Passover feast and ceremony
- The brightest star in Virgo
- Made with oats
- Subjects to laser light
- Beloved Hollywood alien
- Neatly brief
- The Great Lakes State (abbr.)
- Soon to be released
- Swiss river
- Become involved in
- More dour
- They're on floors
- Boxing's GOAT
- Swarms with
- Quantum mechanics pioneer
- Facilitated
- As fast as can be done (abbr.)
- Regional French wine Grand __
- Owns
- Tell on
- Precedes two

Explanation of new “Read by Grade Three” law

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

In 2016, Michigan’s legislature passed a law requiring schools to identify and provide additional help to students who are struggling with reading and writing, and that law has now taken effect. The “Read by Grade Three” law states that, beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, third graders who test more than one grade level behind in reading may have to repeat the third grade.

To identify these students, assessments are given to all children in Kindergarten through third grade within 30



days of the beginning of the school year. Students who are revealed to have reading concerns will have an individualized reading improvement plan written for them with the help of teachers, the principal and their parent or legal guardian. These children will then be assessed several times throughout the year to check on their progress and so the reading plans can be updated.

Additionally, a home reading plan will be developed together with the family, with special resources and activities provided, so that improvements can continue at home after school and during weekends and holidays.

During the spring of third grade, children take the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress, a.k.a. the M-STEP. At that time, parents of students who score one or more grade level behind the third grade reading level will be notified that the child may be retained. This will occur by June 1.

Parents who do not agree with the decision



should file a “Good Cause Exemption” and request a meeting with the school within 30 days of receiving the retention notice.

If retained, the school will provide a reading program designed to improve the child’s specific reading concern. The child may also be assigned a reading teacher, a reading specialist, a reading program, daily small group instruction, ongoing assessments or specialized reading help.

To read the entire law, visit legislature.mi.gov/documents/2015-2016/publicact/pdf/2016-PA-0306.pdf. A comprehensive FAQ about the law is available here: michigan.gov/documents/mde/Read_Grade_3_Guide_638247_7.pdf.



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